



QUBICAAMF PRESENTS  
**INTERNATIONAL FAMILY  
 TOURNAMENT**  
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Written by:  
 Paula Supanich-Jarolim

## 2014 QIFT CHAMPIONS MANUEL AND JOSEPHINE SANCHEZ

### Local residents take on 25 states to claim victory!

It all started when Manuel Sanchez, a youth league member at Lawn Lanes in Chicago and a St Laurence HS Sophomore, convinced his hesitant mother, Josephine, to enter the handicapped QubicaAMF International Family Tournament (QIFT) on a Sunday morning in March.

Only four teams entered the preliminary round, including Manuel Sanchez with his mom, Josephine Sanchez, Ramiro J Garcia with his dad, Ramiro T Garcia, Paige Surina with her dad, Chuck Surina Jr., and Ben Duran with his adult partner, Mary Navedo. All four teams were in four different categories and uncontested, making it an easy advance to the state round at Fox Bowl in Wheaton IL in May. Top two teams in each parent division go on to the international round at Don Carter Lanes in July.

The Surina team placed third in the parent/youth division, taking home a \$200 scholarship. The Sanchez team placed third in the parent/teen divisions, also taking home a \$200 scholarship. The second place team of the parent/teen

division went to the international finals in 2013, disqualifying them from advancing in 2014. This revelation sent Manny and Josie to the international finals.

The finals of the QIFT was to be held at Don Carter Lanes in Rockford IL on July 19-21. Representing 25 states and the US Navy, 74 teams, 36 in the parent/youth and 38 in the parent/teen divisions found themselves amongst the elite teams that have made it this far.

The qualifying round consisted of a 2 day, 3 game sets, taking place on Sunday and Monday morning. Manny started out with a 289 the first game, placing the Sanchez team in first place. As the games went on, they finished the first 3 games set with 1491, dropping them to tie for third place to start Monday's squad.

The next day's 3 game set was equally as challenging as Manny and Josie bowled their best, ending with a 3003 series for the 2 days.

This finish placed them back in the first place position,

leading the top 8 teams that advance to the knock out round of 8 baker games.

The baker rounds consisted of each bowler of the two person team, one bowler taking the odd numbered frames, and the other bowler taking the even numbered frames. An additional bonus of 30 pins was awarded of each game won. After seven baker games with the bonus pins added to the scores with handicap, the Sanchez team was in fifth place. The eighth baker game was a position round, where each consecutive position competed against the next consecutive position.

Team Sanchez struggled at the beginning but bowled a 262 w/cap baker game, defeating the 6th place team. Feeling that great game was not enough to advance, Manny put away his equipment as he awaited the announcement of the semi-finalists. Much to their surprise, Team Sanchez moved up to third place, landing them in the semi-finals.

Bowling against Oklahoma, Manny and Josie started with the first five strikes and finishing strong, defeating the second place team.

Bowling against Montana for first place, the match was close through the 8th frame, with Team Sanchez defeating the first place team by 26 pins.

A look of astonishment came over them as the fact of them winning the tournament had to sink in.

Manny had just won a \$5000 scholarship to the college of his choice, exposure to college coaches, and one very large trophy to be admired for years to come.

**Congratulations to the 2014 QubicaAMF International Family Tournament Champions, Manuel and Josephine Sanchez of Chicago!**

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